

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

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TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. EKO/DDA	<i>BA</i>	10 JUN 1986
2. ADDA	<i>BA</i>	11 JUN 1986
3. DDA	<i>BA</i>	11 JUN 1986
4.		
5.		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

cc: D/OS *done 6/11/86*

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FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)	Room No.—Bldg.
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5041-102

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
Prescribed by GSA
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* GPO : 1981 O - 361-529 (148)

TO:	ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1 DCI				
2 DDCI				
3 EXDIR		X		
4 D/ICS				
5 DDI		X		
6 DDA		X		
7 DDO		X		
8 DDS&T		X		
9 Chm/NIC				
10 GC				
11 IG				
12 Compt		X		
13 D/OLL		X		
14 D/PAO				
15 D/PERS				
16 VC/NIC				
17 ES		X		
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
SUSPENSE		Date		

Remarks

Executive Secretary
9 June 1986
Date

3637 (10-81)

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

86- 2546

9 June 1986



The Honorable Ted Stevens, Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Intelligence Community is at a critical juncture, and I solicit your support in obtaining the intelligence capabilities necessary to support informed foreign policy and defense decisions. I am not unaware of the fiscal pressures facing the nation and I do not envy Congress' budgetary task. I am compelled, however, to state that we cannot again sustain the types of reductions experienced last year for the current FY 1987 NFIP budget and still maintain a viable intelligence posture.

STAT

In FY 1986, the Intelligence Community's budget was reduced substantially as a result of direct Congressional action, apportionment of the Community's share of the Department of Defense's unallocated reductions, and Gramm/Rudman/Hollings.

STAT

These reductions were absorbed in the most part by stretching out projects and by delaying the initiation of others until FY 1987. By careful management, we were able to minimize actual near-term loss of capability in spite of unforeseen developments such as the Shuttle Challenger catastrophe. However, this strategy was developed under the assumption that the Intelligence Community's budget would return to the programmed level in FY 1987.

STAT

Because we already have postponed needed improvements to comply with the FY 1986 Gramm/Rudman/Hollings and unallocated reductions, in the event of a significant FY 1987 cut, we will have to give strong consideration to major surgery including the cancellation of large projects or initiatives. However we ultimately apply the cut, it necessarily will impact heavily on intelligence capabilities in support of policy worldwide.

STAT

The plain and inescapable fact is that the cost of national security is not something which the U.S. can control irrespective of the plans and actions of its known and potential adversaries. None of us wants to spend to excess, and none of us wants to see our country, either now or at any time in the future, placed at the mercy of an outside power. Striking a balance is what our democratic political process is all about. A key job of intelligence is to reduce the uncertainties surrounding that process to levels acceptable to prudent men of good conscience. With more facts and less conjecture as to the threats we face, the quest for consensus becomes immeasurably easier. Cutting back on foreign intelligence would widen the differing perceptions of the external threat and stimulate divisiveness at a time when just the opposite is becoming a clear national need. Whether one is of the view that the U.S. is spending too much or too little for national defense, I would hope that we not allow ourselves to lapse into ignorance as to the nature and scope of the external challenges. ☐

STAT

We cannot maintain our current posture and keep up with the challenges of our changing world without your support. In many instances, we already are behind advances made by our potential adversaries and others contemplating or planning actions inimical to our national security. I am fearful that an unfocused major reduction in intelligence programs designed to guide or influence the application of our limited economic, political, and military resources will contribute to an erosion to the security of our nation. ☐

STAT

Sincerely,


William J. Casey

SUBJECT: Ltr to Hon. Ted Stevens, SSCI

ICS/PBS: 5 May 86)

STAT

Distribution: DCI/ICS

STAT

- Orig. - Hon. Ted Stevens, SAC
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